

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
**Attorney Docket No. 187908-74568**

Inventors: Keith N. Ravenscroft and William V. Block

Attorney Docket No. 187908 - 74568

Filing Date: May 24 1999

Serial No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Art Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Examiner: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Invention: COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR METAL COLORING PROCESS

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(c) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN)**

I hereby declare that I am  
\_\_\_\_\_ the owner of the small business concern identified below;  
  X   an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the  
concern identified below;

NAME OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN: Birchwood Laboratories, Inc.  
ADDRESS OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN: 7900 Fuller Road  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 C.F.R. 121.12 and reproduced in 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees to the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention described in the attached specification filed herewith with the title COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR METAL COLORING PROCESS as listed above.

If the rights of the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights in the invention must file separate verified statements averring to their status as small entities, and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(c) if that person made the invention, or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(d), or a nonprofit organization under 37 C.F.R. 1.9(e).

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Title of Invention: COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR METAL COLORING PROCESS

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am an original, first and joint inventor of the invention entitled COMPOSITION AND METHOD FOR METAL COLORING PROCESS described and claimed in the attached specification filed herewith; that

I have read the attached specification and understand the contents thereof, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above; that

I do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof for more than one year prior to this application, that the same was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application, that the invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the day of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on any application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to this application, that I acknowledge my duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the examination of this application, and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention has been filed in any country foreign to the United States of America prior to this application by me or my legal representatives or assigned except as follows: None.

I hereby appoint as attorney of record with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: Malcolm D. Reid, Reg. No. 27,065.

**SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:**

**Malcolm D. Reid**  
**Gray, Plant, Mooty, Mooty & Bennett, P.A.**  
**3400 Multifoods Tower, 33 S. 6th St.**  
**Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402**

**DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:**

**Telephone: (612) 343-5378**  
**Facsimile: (612) 333-0066**

**I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.**

Full name of First Inventor:  
Address of First Inventor:

Keith N. Ravenscroft  
1302 Blackfoot Trail  
Long Lake, MN 55356

Citizenship:

United States of America

Signature of First Inventor:  
Date: May 19, 1999

  
Keith N. Ravenscroft

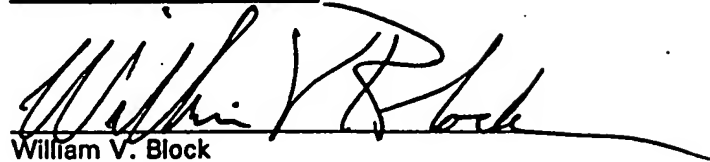
Full name of Second Inventor:  
Address of Second Inventor:

William V. Block  
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Apple Valley, MN 55124

Citizenship:

United States of America

Signature of Second Inventor:  
Date: May 20, 1999

  
William V. Block